

## As Newborn Babes

By David J. Stewart

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" —1st Peter 2:2

The Bible likens a new believer in Christ to a "newborn baby." Carefully notice that the Bible doesn't say "baby"; but rather, "newborn baby." Whereas an older baby might be able to perform certain advanced intellectual functions, such as saying "mama" or "papa"; a newborn baby is completely ignorant of its new life.

Likewise, when a lost sinner repents by turning to Jesus Christ to be forgiven of their sins, they are born-again in Christ Jesus. At that point they are as helpless in their new spiritual life as is a baby physically born from its mother's womb. Everything becomes new to them...

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2nd Corinthians 5:17).

This is why the Apostle Peter, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in 1st Peter 2:2, said that a baby believer needs the MILK OF THE WORD to grow.

## The Lie of Lordship Salvation

In view of this Biblical truth, the false doctrine of "Lordship Salvation" becomes even more absurd. Lordship Salvation is the teaching that a sinner cannot merely place their trust in Jesus Christ to be saved; but in addition, that sinner must surrender to Christ's Lordship, and thus be willing to forsake one's sins as part of saving faith. This is works salvation and a guaranteed road to Hellfire and damnation. The gift of God is eternal life (Romans 6:23) and it is without any works of self-righteousness (Titus 3:5).

The Word of God plainly states that Christ's righteousness is IMPUTED (i.e., placed upon our heavenly record) to the sinner who rests his or her faith in Jesus Christ for salvation...

"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him [Jesus] that justifieth the ungodly [you and me], his faith is counted for righteousness. Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom **God** imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin" (Romans 4:5-8).

This is Biblical salvation; not the false gospel of heretics like John MacArthur, Paul

Washer, Aiden Tozer, Jack Chick, Ray Comfort, and a host of others. The Bible plainly warns us in 2nd Corinthians 11:3,4 that Satan would attempt to corrupt the "simplicity that is in Christ" through ignorant and unlearned men who pervert the Scriptures...

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him."

All of the men I just mentioned to you are guilty of preaching "another gospel" not taught in the Scriptures. 2nd Peter 3:16 also warns against those who ignorantly pervert the Scriptures...

"As also in all his [Paul's] epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."

It is no trifle matter that <u>Jack Chick</u> is sincerely ignorant in his false gospel. People are going to Hell. Unquestionably, untold thousands of lost sinners have refused to accept Christ after reading a *Chick Tract*, because they were unwilling to "be willing to turn from sin" to be saved as Mr. Chick requires in his tracts. No Sir, you don't have to be willing to turn from sin to be saved! You simply need to believe on Jesus as the Christ with a childlike faith to be forgiven of your sins. It's that simple.

Just as a little newborn baby who's just come forth from its mother's womb, so is the new believer in Christ. Just as nothing can reasonably be expected of a newborn baby; likewise, nothing should be expected of a new believer in Christ. Salvation does not instantly cause a new believer to walk a narrow path (as <a href="Paul Washer">Paul Washer</a> errantly teaches), anymore than a newborn child can use a calculator, run a marathon, or construct something with building blocks. There is a necessary growth process that cannot by bypassed. The same is true of every new believer in Christ Jesus.

In salvation, a lost sinner, who realizes their guilt under God's Law, comes to Jesus Christ by faith to be forgiven and saved. This is the second birth. Absolutely nothing can be reasonably expected of a new believer who hasn't been trained, mentored and given the opportunity to grow in the Lord. It is wickedness, and a false gospel, when men like John MacArthur and Ray Comfort pervert the gospel into works salvation, by teaching that faith alone in Christ is not enough to save a person from Hell. Yes it is enough...

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord **shall be saved**" (Romans 10:13)

The heresy of Lordship Salvation bypasses growth in grace, and unreasonably demands a changed life, or a willingness to change one's life, as part of saving faith. There is no such teaching in the Scriptures.	
Ye Must Be Born Again!   You Need HIS Righteousness!	